GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6480
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003
BAN ON USE OF TOBACCO
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of member countries of the World Health Organisation (WHO);

(b) whether nearly 170 member countries of the WHO have backed a tough pact against smoking, including advertising bans;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a): The number of member countries of the World Health Organisation (WHO) is 192.

(b) to (d): 171 member countries of the WHO including India are participants in the formulation of a pact called the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), to control tobacco supply and consumption.This international agreement would provide the necessary tools, support, targets and time-frames for the World`s nations to cooperate and create comparably tight domestic policies for tobacco control and tackle cross-border issues such as advertising and trade, to save millions of lives and improve public health. `The Cigarettes and other Tobacco products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 2003`, introduced by the Union Government in Parliament was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 9th April, 2003 and the Lok Sabha on 30th April, 2003. The Bill, inter-alia, prohibits the advertisement of, and provides for regulation of trade and commerce in production, supply and distribution of cigarettes and other tobacco products.